



Office of the Attorney General  
State of Texas

DAN MORALES  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 8, 1991

Ms. Mary Hitch  
Commissioners Court Administrator  
Comal County  
150 N. Seguin, Suite 301  
New Braunfels, Texas 78130-5163

OR91-472

Dear Ms. Hitch:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V.T.C.S. Your request was assigned ID# 13410.

You have received a request for information relating to a certain "Flood Damage Prevention Order" dated March 5, 1987. Specifically, the request includes information relating to the Comal County Commissioner's consideration and evaluation of:

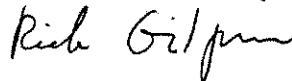
- (a) Engineer-architect study of 3300 cfs at school location site.
- (b) Identification of all creeks draining and existing on the school location site.
- (c) Identification and evaluation of old stream bed on the school location site.
- (e) Identification as to the amount of fill used to elevate the building.
- (f) Provide Certificate of Elevation as required.

In addition, the request includes several questions of a factual nature. The Open Records Act does not require a governmental body to answer factual questions. Open Records Decision No. 555 (1990). You claim that the request is too vague for you to determine which documents are requested. You request clarification as to whether you have any obligations under the Open Records Act in this situation.

We have reviewed the documents submitted to us for review. We agree that the request for information is vague. A governmental body, however, is obligated to make a good faith effort to relate a request to information which it holds. Open Records Decision No. 561 (1990) at 8. When a governmental body is presented with an unclear request for information rather than for specific records, it should advise the requestor of the types of information available so that he may narrow his request. *Id.* at 9. Once you have clarified the contents of the request, you must release the requested information within ten days or request an open records decision from this office.

Because prior published open records decisions resolve your request, we are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. If you have questions about this ruling, please refer to OR91-472.

Yours very truly,



Rick Gilpin  
Assistant Attorney General  
Opinion Committee

RG/GK/lcd

Ref.: ID# 13410

cc: Mr. Richard M. Fincke  
Rt. 10, Box 39C10  
New Braunfels, Texas 78132